

2012

MOUNTAIN LION

Montana Hunting Regulations



*Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks*



Mountain lion *Puma concolor*. Photo by Kevin Hanly

Apply for General Licenses, Special Licenses, and SuperTags Online: fwp.mt.gov

Regulations Adopted by FWP Commission

These regulations are adopted under the authority granted to the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission (FWPC) in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2012, through April 14, 2013. These regulations were adopted by the FWPC on June 14, 2012. The FWPC reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes. Joe Maurier, Director.

State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Personnel Office, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

What's New & Reminders

What's New

- Quota changes in HDs 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 109, 110, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 130, 132, 140, 141, 150 & 151, 200/201, 202/203, 204/260/261, 240, 250, 270, 280/281/284/293 & portion of 298, 283/285, 290/291/292 & portion of 298, 210, 211/216, 212/215, 213 & 214, 300/302/328 & 329, 301, 310/311/360/361/362, 312/393, 313/316, 314, 317, 318/335, 319/341, 320/333, 322/326 & 330, 323/324/325 & 327, 331, 339/343/388, 350/370, 390 & 391, 416/ 446/449/452 & 454, 413/432, 405/447 & 471.
- Late Winter Season (Feb 01 - Apr 14) in Region 2 for General Lion License holders. See page 6 for details.

Reminders

- A General Lion License purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. This license may be purchased at FWP offices, at License Providers or online.
- Deadline to apply for Special Mountain Lion License drawing is August 31.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Lion License will be eligible to purchase a General Mountain Lion License which is valid statewide in any open district during the fall season without dogs, in the Archery Only Season, in any open district during the Late Winter Season (Feb 1 – Apr 14) in Region 2 and in the Missoula Special Management Area.

Licensing – Residency

It is illegal to swear to or to affirm a false statement in order to obtain an original or duplicate resident hunting and/or fishing license OR to assist an unqualified applicant in obtaining a resident license.

Resident

- To be a legal Montana resident and eligible to purchase any Montana resident fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, as per MCA 87-2-102, you must:
 - claim Montana as your principal or primary home or place of abode.
 - have been physically living in Montana for at least 180 consecutive days immediately prior to purchasing a resident license;
 - register your vehicle(s) in Montana;
 - be registered to vote in Montana if you're registered to vote at all;
 - not possess current (or have applied for any) resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state or country;
 - file Montana state income tax returns as a resident, if you are required to file.
- Once you have established your residency, you must continue to meet all these requirements and physically reside in Montana as your principal or primary place of abode for not less than 120 days per year (days need not be consecutive).
- To purchase an annual resident conservation license you will be required to show a valid Montana Driver's License (MDL), a valid Montana Identification Card (MIC) or a valid Tribal Identification Card.
- If your MDL or MIC has been issued for less than six months, you may be required to show additional proof of residency. An out-of-state driver's license is NOT an acceptable form of ID for resident license purchases. Contact your local FWP office for specifics.
- A person is NOT considered a resident for the purposes of this section if the person claims residence in any other state or country for any purpose.

License Chart

The following licenses, for the purpose of mountain lion hunting, chasing and/or resident hound training, are valid March 1, 2012 through the dates listed in these regulations and subject to quota closures. A hunter may purchase only one mountain lion license per year.

LICENSE	REQUIREMENT(S)	COST
Conservation	Required Prerequisite	\$8 Resident \$10 Nonresident
Hunting Access Enhancement Fee	Annual fee charged at the time the hunter purchases his/her first hunting license per license year.	\$2 Resident \$10 Nonresident
General Mountain Lion	A general mountain lion license purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued. Available to resident and nonresident conservation license holders 11 years of age or older. See Youth Hunting Opportunities.	\$19 Resident \$320 Nonresident
Bow and Arrow (Archery)	A bow and arrow license, plus the proper hunting license is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.	\$10 Resident \$10 Nonresident
Mountain Lion Trophy	Trophy fee required for license after mountain lion harvest.	\$50 Resident \$50 Nonresident
Resident Hound Training	Available to resident conservation license holders 11 years of age or older. See Youth Hunting Opportunities.	\$5 Resident Only
Special Mountain Lion Application (Nonrefundable Application Fee)	Over-the-counter or mailed applications must be received by FWP no later than 5:00 pm on August 31. Online applications (fwp.mt.gov) must be completed by 11:45pm MDT on August 31.	\$5 Resident \$5 Nonresident Note: successful applicants must purchase a special mountain lion license by February 28, 2013.

Licensing – General Information and Procedures

- In Region 1, the following districts are quota-based for both residents and nonresidents: 132, 140, 141, 150, 151, and 170 (170 has an unlimited quota).
- In most of Region 1, resident mountain lion hunting during the winter season will be only by special mountain lion license with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the special mountain lion licenses available.
- In most of Region 2, mountain lion hunting during the early portion of the Winter Season (Dec 01 – Jan 31) will be only by Special Lion License in most districts with nonresidents limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the Special Lion Licenses available. General Lion License holders may hunt during the Late Winter Season (Feb 1 – Apr 14) until quotas are filled or until the season is closed.
- In the Missoula Special Management Area* within Region 2:
 - resident** mountain lion hunting only by general license under a harvest quota. Exception: special mountain lion license holders may hunt mountain lion in the Missoula Special Management Area* during the Archery Only and Fall mountain lion seasons.
 - nonresident** mountain lion hunting only by special mountain lion license and limited to, but not guaranteed, 10 percent of the district quota.
- In Region 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, all hunting districts are quota-based for residents and nonresidents.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Lion License will be eligible to purchase a General Lion License valid in any open districts during fall seasons statewide, valid in open districts during the late winter season (Feb 1 – Apr 14) in Region 2, and valid in the Missoula Special Management Area*.

- Unsuccessful resident applicants may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase during the hound training season December 2 – April 14 in any valid hunting district statewide.

General Mountain Lion License

- A general mountain lion license is available at all Fish, Wildlife & Parks offices, FWP license providers, online at fwp.mt.gov, or by mail.
 - A general mountain lion license purchased after August 31 may not be used until five days after the license is issued.
 - Applications are available at all FWP Regional and Area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov.
- During the winter season a General Lion License is valid in all hunting districts with a harvest quota, but not before Feb 1 in most Region 2 hunting districts.
- During the Late Winter Season (Feb 01 - Apr 14) a General Lion License is valid in all hunting districts that have not reached the harvest quota.
- During the archery only and fall seasons, a General Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district, even if the district is a Special Mountain Lion License district during the winter season.

Special Mountain Lion License

- A limited number of special mountain lion licenses are available only through a special drawing. Apply by August 31.
- Applicants must possess a current year conservation license to apply for a special mountain lion license.
- Bonus points will be offered for special mountain lion license applications.
- Nonresidents are limited to no more than 10% of the special mountain lion licenses offered.
- A special mountain lion license may be applied for:
 - online at fwp.mt.gov no later than 11:45 p.m. MDT on August 31, OR
 - over-the-counter at any FWP regional office, FWP area office, and/or the Helena Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. MDT August 31, OR
 - by mail. Mailed applications must include the \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee and must be received by FWP Helena Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. MDT August 31. Applications are available at all FWP regional and area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov.
- Drawing results will be available during or after the third week of September.
- Successful special mountain lion license applicants will be notified by mail and must purchase a mountain lion license no later than February 28, 2013.
- During the archery only and fall seasons, a Special Lion License may be used in any valid mountain lion hunting district.
- During the winter season, a Special Lion License may be used only in a specific hunting district, portion of the hunting district, or a group of hunting districts for which the Special Lion License is valid.
- Unsuccessful applicants for a Special Lion License will be eligible to purchase a General Lion License, valid statewide in any open districts during the fall season without dogs, the archery only season, the late winter season (Feb 1 – Apr 16) in Region 2 and in the Missoula Special Management Area.
- Unsuccessful resident applicants for Special Lion Licenses may purchase a Resident Hound Training License to only chase mountain lion and/or bobcat during the hound training season in any valid mountain lion hunting district statewide December 2 – April 14.

Mountain Lion Trophy License

Successful hunters are required to purchase a mountain lion trophy license after they have harvested a mountain lion.

Resident Hound Training License (RHTL)

- Available to resident conservation license holders.
- Entitles the license holder to use a dog or dogs to aid in chasing mountain lions and/or bobcat in all valid mountain lion hunting districts in the state, except HD 282 and 309, during the hound training season from December 2 – April 14 of the following year per MCA 87-2-521.
- A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with only an RHTL. To kill a mountain lion, you must hold a mountain lion license. To kill a bobcat, you must hold a furbearer license validated by November 30 for bobcat.

- A resident hunter with a valid mountain lion license is not required to have a resident hound training license to chase mountain lion.

State School Trust Lands Recreational Use License

The Conservation License allows hunters, anglers and trappers access to all legally accessible state school trust lands.

SuperTag Lottery for Mountain Lion

- Resident and nonresident hunters can buy an unlimited number of \$5 chances per species by July 5th to win a Montana hunting license for a mountain lion as well as antelope, bison, deer, elk, moose, sheep and goat.
- Each SuperTag license allows one to hunt in any Montana hunting district valid for that species.
- Chances are sold electronically at all FWP License Providers or via fwp.mt.gov/online services.
- Proceeds from the sale of SuperTag chances will enhance public hunting access and boost FWP enforcement efforts.
- For more information visit FWP's website at fwp.mt.gov.

Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

Montana is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Under the compact, member states recognize suspensions of hunting, fishing or trapping privileges. It is illegal for a violator whose privilege to hunt, fish or trap is suspended to obtain or attempt to obtain a license, tag or permit in a member state. For more information, call 406-444-2452.

Youth Hunting Opportunities

A resident or nonresident youth who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2013, may hunt any game species for which their license is valid, after August 15, 2012. Proof of hunter education must be presented at the time of purchase.

Hunter Education Requirements

Hunter Education for Firearm and Archery

- If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completing a Montana hunter safety and education course (or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province) prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for the rifle or archery season.
- Montana law requires members of the armed forces and their dependents stationed in Montana to present a Montana hunter education certificate or similar certificate from any state or province when purchasing any Montana hunting license.
- Duplicates – Montana certificates of completion for the Montana hunter education and/or bowhunter education courses may be obtained from FWP's website.

Bowhunter Education Requirements

- To purchase a Montana bow and arrow license, a hunter must:
 - Provide a certificate of completing the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, or
 - Provide any prior year's bowhunting/archery stamp, tag, permit, or license from any state or province.

Definitions

Chase – To go after or on the track of.

Hunting District – Represents a hunting district OR group of hunting districts as specified under "Mountain Lion Hunting District Regulations".

Legal Mountain Lion – Any mountain lion not accompanied by kittens with spots. No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Legal Male Mountain Lion – Any male mountain lion without body spots.

Open Hunting District – A valid hunting district not closed to harvest.

Valid Hunting District – A legally defined hunting district with a general mountain lion license harvest quota or special mountain lion license quota.

Valid License – A current license year license. A valid license may be used to chase even after a mountain lion has been harvested.

Hunter Access

Closed Lands

State Game Preserves, National Parks, and National Wildlife Refuges are closed to mountain lion hunting. For additional information on state and federal regulations, contact the local land manager.

Private Land Access

- Montana law requires hunters to have the permission of the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property, regardless of whether the land is posted or not. Access courtesy cards and a map directory pamphlet are available at all FWP offices.
- Permission is required to release dogs or chase mountain lions and bobcats on private land.

Public Land Access

- Big game hunting between the ordinary high water marks of streams and rivers is illegal without landowner permission. Landowner permission must be obtained to hunt private lands adjacent to waterways.
- FWP is working cooperatively with other agencies to improve signing of legally accessible public lands wherever possible. A map directory pamphlet is available at all FWP offices.
- Enforcement of Area Closures on Public Land: All federally approved travel plans on public lands in Montana are hereby adopted by the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission. Motorized travel in restricted areas in violation of any current travel plan or land use plan is prohibited during the hunting season.

State School Trust Lands

- Overnight (2 night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a legal access point.
- Horses may not be kept on state land overnight.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on designated roads.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campground fire pits.
- Firearms may not be discharged within one-quarter mile of an inhabited dwelling or outbuilding without permission of the inhabitant.
- Additional information is available from FWP or contact DNRC at 406-444-2074.

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

- Wildlife Management Areas are generally open to hunting during the fall mountain lion season. WMAs with big game winter range are closed to public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to May 15 each year, as posted.
- Exception: There are several exceptions to these guidelines. For WMA specific information, please call the Regional office (see page 16 for contact numbers) or visit the FWP website at: fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/wma/

Hunters with a Disability

If you or someone you know has a disability and/or is aging, and is in need of assistive technology (AT) or adaptive equipment to help you participate in outdoor recreation, please contact MonTECH at the University of Montana Rural Institute at 700 SW Higgins Ave., Suite 250, Missoula, MT 59803; 877-243-5511 (toll-free instate only).

Means and Methods of Hunting

As a big game animal, mountain lions may only be taken by hunting (firearms or archery).

Firearms

General Season

- There is no rifle or handgun caliber limitation for the taking of big game animals.
- Muzzleloaders, shotguns with 0, 00, or slugs, archery equipment, and crossbows are legal.
- The possession of firearms with silencers while big game hunting is illegal.

Archery Equipment

Archery Only Season and in archery equipment only areas.

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.
- Lawful Archery Equipment: It is illegal to possess, while hunting big game during any archery only season and in archery equipment only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria.
- Hunting Bow: A hunting bow for big game shall be a longbow, flatbow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs
- The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).
- The bow must be hand drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter.
- The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow and the other hand draw the bowstring. Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit To Modify Archery Equipment (PMAE) are exempted from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.
- A bow is considered legal if not shorter than 28 inches total length.
- The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent.
- Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.
- A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.
- The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.
- Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges. Expandable broadheads are legal as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.
- The following are not considered a hunting bow or legal archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an ArchEquip Only area or hunting district:
 - Crossbow.
 - Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.
 - Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.
 - Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow.
 - A bow sight or arrow which uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics.

Prohibited Methods of Taking

- It is illegal to interfere/hinder with the lawful taking of a game animal.
- It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird:
 - from any self propelled (that is, motorized) or drawn vehicle. Even if the vehicle is not moving, hunters must be off or out of the vehicle. Holders of the Permit To Hunt From A Vehicle are the exception to this;
 - from, on or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, in the State of Montana;
 - by the aid or with the use of any set gun, jacklight, spotlight or other artificial light, trap, snare, salt lick, or bait, as per Montana law. Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of corn, wheat, or other grain or food sources so as to constitute a lure or attraction.
- Hunters may not use a motorized vehicle or aircraft to concentrate, drive, rally, stir-up, corral or harass wildlife except predators.
- In order to carry or use a firearm for any reason, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the child, or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, MCA 45-8-344.

General Regulations

It is illegal to

- "Party" hunt. Each hunter must shoot and tag his/her own animal.
- Loan or transfer their license to another person or use a license issued to another person.
- Carry or have physical control over a valid and unused hunting license or permit issued to another person while in any location where the species to be hunted occurs. Exception: a person may carry or have control over a license or permit issued to that person's spouse or any minor when the spouse or minor is hunting with that person.
- Alter a license or permit for any reason.
- Post state or federal land other than that done by a state or federal land agency.

Airplane Spotting

Aircraft may not be used to locate big game animals for the purpose of:

- 1) hunting those animals within the same hunting day after a person has been airborne;
- OR
- 2) providing information to another person for the purpose of hunting those animals within the same hunting day after being airborne.
- A hunting day is defined as between the earliest and latest legal hunting hours.

Bobcat and Lynx

Nonresidents may not take bobcats. Lynx are listed as a federally threatened species and there is no open season. It is a violation of both state and federal law to knowingly chase lynx with dogs.

Check Stations

All hunters are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

Hunting Hours

Authorized hunting hours for the taking of big game animals begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See the official sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

Hunter Orange

Firearm Hunters

- Any person hunting or accompanying a hunter as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times.

Archery Hunters

- A licensed bowhunter pursuing mountain lion during the Archery Only Season or in archery only hunting districts is not required to meet the hunter orange requirement even if there is a concurrent firearm season in that hunting district or portion of district. However, bowhunters hunting during any portion of the general season (firearm) for mountain lion must always wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) above the waist, visible at all times.

Inspection of Wildlife

Wildlife taken must be shown to FWP enforcement for inspection when requested.

License Possession

- Licenses must be carried on your person at all times while in the field hunting.
- Licenses must be produced if requested by FWP Enforcement personnel.

Limits and Seasons:

- A hunter may legally harvest/take one mountain lion per license year.

Motion-Tracking or Camera Devices

It is illegal for a person to possess or use in the field any electronic or camera device whose purpose is to scout the location of game animals or relay the information on a game animal's location or movement during any Commission-adopted hunting season.

Night Vision Equipment

It is illegal to use night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game.

Possession and Sale of Wildlife Parts

- It is illegal to sell or purchase any part of a mountain lion except as allowed by the laws of Montana.
- The sale or purchase of hides, heads or mounts of lawfully killed mountain lion is legal.

Recorded Animal Sounds

It is illegal to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals, as per Montana law.

Silencers

The possession of firearms with silencers while hunting big game is illegal.

Simulated Wildlife

It is illegal to discharge a firearm or other hunting implement at a simulated wildlife decoy in violation of any state statute or FWP commission rule regulating the hunting of the wildlife being simulated.

Transport of Big Game

- If you are transporting wildlife and/or fish including live animals, sport-taken game, parts and/or products between Montana and Canada OR between the US and any foreign country, whether for commercial or non-commercial purposes, you must complete a US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Declaration form (Form 3-177). Form 3-177 is also available at all US Custom Ports and on the USFWS website at www.fws.gov. Additional federal permits may also be needed to import/export wildlife, depending on the species. For further information contact the USFWS Wildlife Inspector at 406-582-0336, Bozeman or 406-329-3000, Missoula.
- A US Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) export permit is needed to export bear parts and/or products from the US.

Two-way Communication

Two-way electronic communication (radios, cell phones, text messages, etc.) may not be used to:

- hunt game animals or upland game birds, migratory birds or furbearers as defined in Montana law ("Hunt" means to "pursue, shoot, wound, kill, chase, lure, possess or capture."), OR
- avoid game checking stations, FWP enforcement personnel, or to facilitate illegal activity.
- When hunting mountain lions or bobcats with dogs, this rule applies when hounds are placed on tracks.

The rule shall not be interpreted to prohibit the possession or use of two-way radios for safety or other legitimate purposes, nor does it prohibit the use of radio tracking equipment to locate hounds when hunting mountain lions or bobcats.

Waste of Game

Mountain lion is excluded from being considered as "suitable for food" under big game regulations. A person that harvests a mountain lion must possess the head and hide, with evidence of sex naturally attached. The remaining carcass may be taken in possession or be left in the field.

Common Sense Precautions When Field-Dressing Big Game

To minimize risk of disease or parasite transmission to humans, follow these proper ways to handle wild meat:

- Wear rubber (latex) gloves when field dressing game.
- Minimize contact with animal fluids, brain and spinal tissues.
- Wash hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing or processing.
- Cook all meat until well done before consuming.

To minimize the risk of disease or parasite transmission to your domestic dog, prevent the consumption of big game viscera.

Mountain Lion Hunting Seasons

Archery Only Season Without Dogs – September 1 - October 14, 2012.

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a general mountain lion license OR a special mountain lion license may harvest any legal lion in any open district statewide during the archery only season.
- A bow and arrow license, plus the proper hunting license is required during mountain lion Archery Only Season or to archery hunt mountain lion in an Arch-Equip only area or hunting district.
- Use of dogs is prohibited during the archery only season.
- The archery only season for mountain lion will close:
 - with the end of the archery only season or,
 - earlier upon reaching 20 percent of a district total quota or 20 percent of special mountain lion licenses, or
 - when one mountain lion is taken in those districts with a total harvest quota of less than five mountain lions or less than five special mountain lion licenses.
- In general license areas, the archery only season harvest will be deducted from the fall season district quota and subquota.
- In special mountain lion license areas, the archery only season female mountain lion harvest will be deducted from the fall season female mountain lion subquota. Once you get a special lion license, the archery only season harvest can't prohibit you from using it in the winter season, with the one exception of female subquotas.
- Reporting requirements are listed under "Procedures to Follow Upon Harvesting a Mountain Lion".
- Female mountain lions with kittens may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Fall Season Without Dogs – October 20 - November 25, 2012

- Resident and nonresident hunters with either a general mountain lion license OR a special mountain lion license may harvest any legal lion in any open district statewide during the fall season.
- Use of dogs is prohibited during the fall season.
- The fall mountain lion season will close:
 - with the end of the general deer/elk season or,
 - earlier upon reaching 20 percent of a district total quota or 20 percent of special mountain lion licenses, or
 - when one mountain lion is taken in those districts with a total harvest quota of less than five mountain lions or less than five special mountain lion licenses.
- In general license areas, the fall season harvest will be deducted from the winter season district quota and subquota.
- In special mountain lion license areas, the fall season female mountain lion harvest will be deducted from the winter season female mountain lion subquota. Once you get a special lion license, the fall harvest can't prohibit you from using it in the winter season, with the one exception of female subquotas.
- Reporting requirements are listed under "Procedures to Follow Upon Harvesting a Mountain Lion".
- Female mountain lions with kittens may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Winter Season – December 1, 2012 - April 14, 2013

- When the female subquota is reached in a hunting district, only legal male mountain lions may be harvested under the remaining harvest quota or with a special mountain lion license.
- General mountain lion license holders may harvest a mountain lion in any open general mountain lion license hunting district during the winter season.
- Special mountain lion license holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts for which the special mountain lion license is valid during the winter season.
- Female mountain lions with kittens may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Late Winter Season – February 01, 2013 - April 14, 2013

- Region 2 hunting districts with Special Lion Licenses are open to General mountain lion license holders for this late portion of the winter season until the harvest quota is reached. License holders must check the quota status before hunting in a Late Winter Season. The season will not open if Special Lion License holders fill the quota by February 1.
- When the female subquota is reached in a hunting district, only legal male mountain lions may be harvested under the remaining harvest quota or with a special mountain lion license.
- General mountain lion license holders may harvest a mountain lion in any open general mountain lion license hunting district during the winter season.
- Special mountain lion license holders may harvest a mountain lion only in the hunting district, portion of the district, or group of districts for which the special mountain lion license is valid during the winter season.
- Female mountain lions with kittens may not be taken.
 - If a lactating female is killed, the hunter must inform an FWP official as soon after the kill as possible.
- No mountain lion with body spots shall be killed.

Winter Season General License Harvest Quotas

- Mountain lion quotas fill quickly in some hunting districts so hunters should check harvest closure information frequently.
- When the subquota is reached in a hunting district, the mountain lion season for that subquota in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice, but no later than April 14.
- When the total quota is reached in a hunting district, the mountain lion season in that hunting district will close upon 24-hours notice to the harvest of all mountain lions, but no later than April 14.
- The Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has authorized the department to initiate closure prior to reaching the total quota or subquota when conditions or circumstances indicate the total quota or subquota may be reached within the 24-hours closure notice period.

Hound Training Season – December 2, 2012 - April 14, 2013

- A hunter with a resident hound training license may legally chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district statewide from December 2 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid general mountain lion license or special mountain lion license, may legally chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district statewide December 1 - April 14.

Procedures to Follow After Harvesting an Animal

Harvest Limit

- A hunter may take one legal mountain lion.

Evidence Required of Game Animal's Sex and Species

- It is illegal to possess or transport the carcass of any big game animal unless evidence of the animal's sex and species remains naturally attached to its carcass or a portion of the carcass.
- Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the hide. The following are considered lawful evidence of sex:
 - males: testicles or baculum;
 - females: vulva.

License Validation and Tagging

- Immediately after killing a game animal, a hunter must cut out the proper month and day of the kill from the appropriate license and attach it to the animal in a secure and visible manner.
- To properly validate a license (sometimes referred to as a tag):
 - the triangles denoting the month and day the animal was killed must be completely removed. Tearing, slicing or punching the tag is not legal.
- The properly validated license must remain with the skull and hide until presented for trophying.

ALB NUMBER: 12/20/1960-1

TAG INFO: R 2004013

FWP - TEST MODE (FWPDEV)

License Listing #: 143 1 of 3

Season: 2012 MOUNTAIN LION SEASON

Provider - Clerk #: 96977 - H6

Session #: 0000013 - 05/01/2012 - 11:59:30

CHASE N TRAX

HELENA MT 59602

MOUNTAIN LION

05/01/2012 19997

THIS TAG MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE ANIMAL.

SEE REGULATION FOR SPECIFICS

SEE REGULATIONS FOR 2012 SEASON DATES

JAN	IMMEDIATELY UPON KILL	C31
FEB	Out out entire month	C30
MAR	and day of kill.	C29
APR		C28
MAY		C27
JUN	-If more than one date	C26
JUL	is cut out, this tag	C25
AUG	is invalid.	C24
SEP	-Attach tag to animal	C23
OCT	carcass so that tag	C22
NOV	is visible.	C21

1) FWP Director: C19

2) Joe Maurier C18

3) C17

4) ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ C16

5) 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 C15

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

- Hunters must personally report their mountain lion kill within 12 hours by calling the mountain lion reporting line at 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453).
- Within ten (10) days of harvesting a mountain lion, the successful hunter must personally present the hide and skull to an officer of FWP residing in the administrative region in which the license was filled, for the purpose of:
 - inspection and registration of kill.
 - verify evidence of sex.
 - removal of a tooth for aging purposes.
 - issuance and attachment of a hide tag. The hide tag must thereafter remain attached to the hide until tanned.
 - issuance of a trophy license, which costs \$50.

Harvest Reporting and Status/Closure Information

- To report a harvest, call 1-877-FWP-WILD (1-877-397-9453).
- Harvest status/closure may be obtained:
 - by calling 1-800-385-7826 for statewide information or,
 - by checking the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov available 24-hours a day.
- The toll-free line and FWP website are updated daily by 1 p.m. MST.

Use of Dogs

- A hunter with a valid general mountain lion license may legally:
 - harvest a mountain lion with dogs in any open general license hunting district during the winter season.
 - harvest a mountain lion with dogs only in the hunting district for which the special mountain lion license is valid during the winter season. Exceptions: hunting districts 150 & 151 are open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.
 - chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district statewide December 1 - April 14. Exceptions: hunting districts 150 & 151 are open to the use of dogs September 15 - April 14.
- A hunter with a valid resident hound training license may legally chase mountain lions in any valid hunting district statewide December 2 - April 14. A person may not kill a mountain lion or bobcat with a resident hound training license.
- Authorized mountain lion hunting and chasing hours begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset for the dates listed by hunting district.
- Authorized bobcat hunting begins one-half hour before sunrise and ends one-half hour after sunset.
- Authorized bobcat chasing begins
 - one-half hour before sunrise and ends one-half hour after sunset in the hunting districts where mountain lion season is open.
 - two hours before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset in the hunting districts where the mountain lion season is closed.
- Nonresidents may not hunt or chase bobcat. Residents must possess a valid trapper's license to hunt and chase bobcat or an RHTL to chase bobcats.
- Permission is required to release dogs or chase mountain lions on private land.
- It is prohibited for a dog owner or mountain lion hunter to release dogs on a mountain lion track, or allow dogs to chase a mountain lion, or hold a mountain lion at bay during any period of the day or year when the season is not open to hunting or chasing mountain lions. Legitimate attempts to retrieve loose dogs after legal hunting hours does not constitute a violation of this rule.
- Persons handling dogs in the field are required to:
 - have a valid general mountain lion license if hunting or chasing;
 - or
 - have a valid special mountain lion license if hunting or chasing;
 - or
 - have a Resident Hound Training License to only chase.
- Outfitters and guides will be eligible to handle hounds with only a valid conservation license and a valid Montana outfitter or guide license in their possession. Guides will also be required to provide the license number of the outfitter on whose license they are guiding if required to do so by an FWP employee.

How The Quota System Works

Using HD 200 & 201 as an example...

----- HD 200 & 201 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

200-00 20 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 10. Male quota = 10. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.
- During the Archery Only Season, Fall Season Without Dogs or the Late Winter Season, hunting is allowed with either a General Lion license OR a Special Lion license valid for that hunting district area.
- Up to 20% of the total number of special licenses or total harvest quota may be taken with a general mountain lion license during the Archery Only or Fall Season Without Dogs.
 - For this example, a total of 4 Any Legal mountain lion (20% x 20 licenses = 4) may be taken in combined total, during either the Archery Only Season and/or the Fall Season Without Dogs.
- If you hold a "special lion license" for HD 200 & 201:
 - When hunting within HD 200 & 201, you are NOT limited to a 20% harvest closure during the Archery Only and/or Fall Season Without Dogs.
 - When hunting outside HD 200 & 201, you are limited to the 20% harvest quota closure during the Archery Only and Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Any female mountain lion taken during the Archery Only Season and the Fall Season Without Dogs will count against the female subquota.
 - For this example, if ten females are taken during these seasons, the female quota will close and the Winter Season will be open only for legal male mountain lions.
- Any lion taken during the Archery Only Season and the Fall Season Without Dogs will count against the harvest quotas in general license areas.
- As an example, if 7 male lions and 7 female lions are harvested by any combination of legal means through Jan 31, then the season will open on Feb 1 to special lion license holders for this area and general license holders for a quota of 3 males and 3 females. Hunters are responsible for checking the FWP website or hotline to verify that the district was not closed prior to reaching the quota.

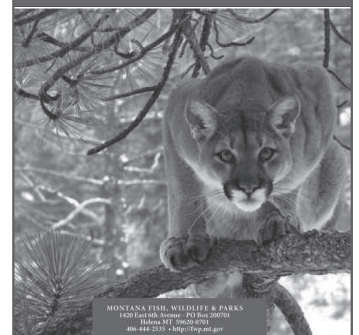
The *Mountain Lion Identification Program* is a voluntary training program available to anyone who is interested in mountain lion ecology and/or who wants to hunt mountain lions.

The course:

- presents information about mountain lion biology;
- explains how to determine the gender of a mountain lion; and
- presents some of Montana's laws and regulations pertaining to mountain lion hunting.

For more information, go to fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/mountainLionID

Mountain Lion Identification Course



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
1500 East 8th Avenue, PO Box 20070
Helena, MT 59620-0701
406-441-2011 • <http://fwp.mt.gov>

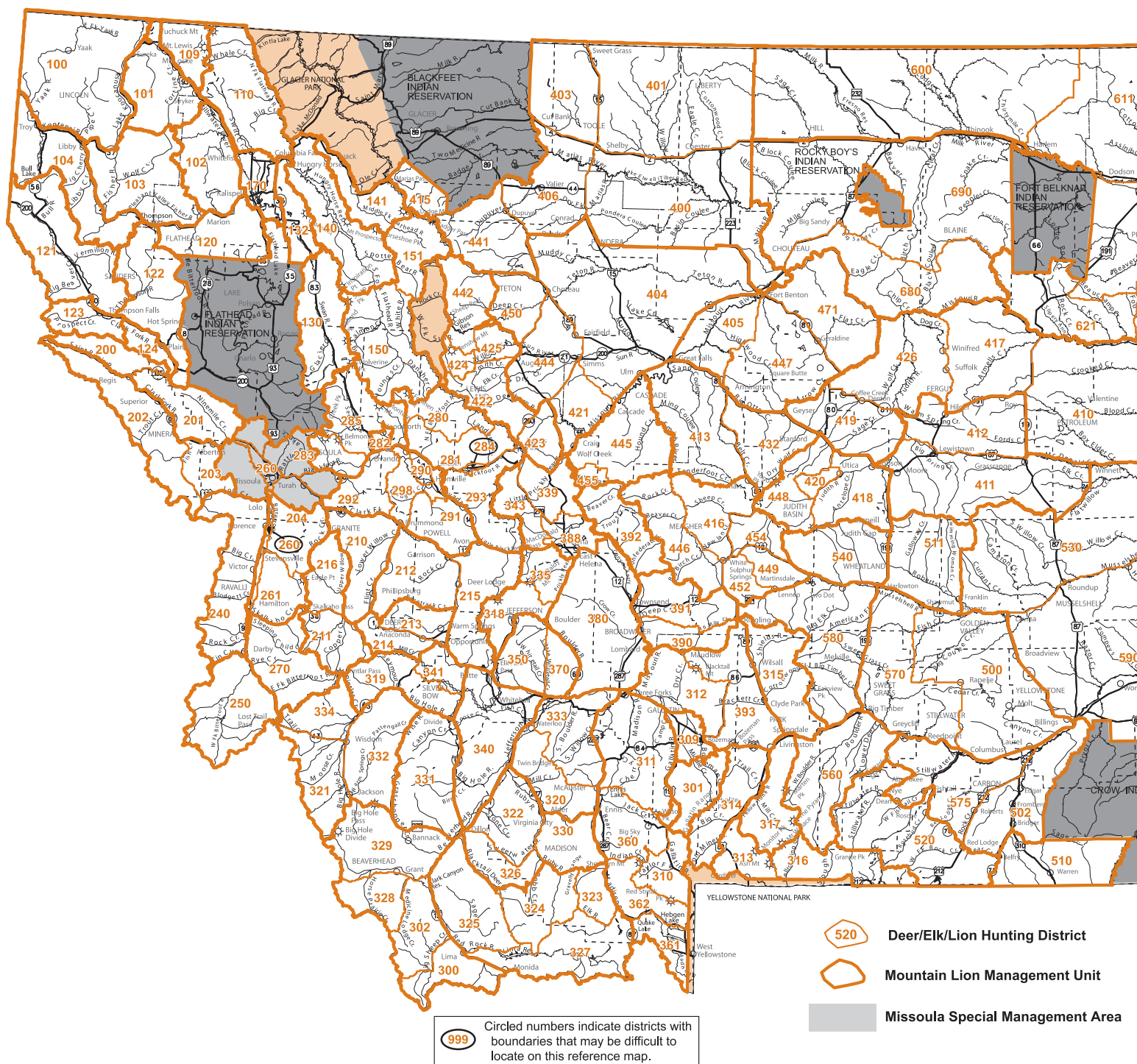
Mountain Lion Hunting Districts – Legal Descriptions

Legal descriptions for the 2012 Mountain Lion Hunting Districts are the same as the 2012 Legal Descriptions for the Deer/Elk Hunting Districts found in the 2012 Deer • Elk • Antelope Regulations or on the FWP website at fwp.mt.gov

Missoula Special Management Area for Mountain Lion – Map and legal description available from the Missoula FWP office (406-542-5500).

Spanish Peaks Portion of HD 311 for Mountain Lion – Those portions of Gallatin County within the following described boundary: Beginning at the confluence of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, then southerly up the Gallatin River to its intersection with Dudley/Creek-West Fork Gallatin divide near Big Sky junction (U.S. Highway 191 and Route 64), then northwesterly up said divide to Wilson Peak, then northeasterly along the Dudley Creek-Hell Roaring Creek divide to trail 481, then easterly along said trail to Table Mountain, then northerly along the Lava Lake trail (trail numbers 445 and 77) to the mouth of Cascade Creek and the Gallatin River, the point of beginning.

Mountain Lion Hunting District Map



Mountain Lion Hunting District Regulations

----- HD 100 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

100-00 30 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 12.

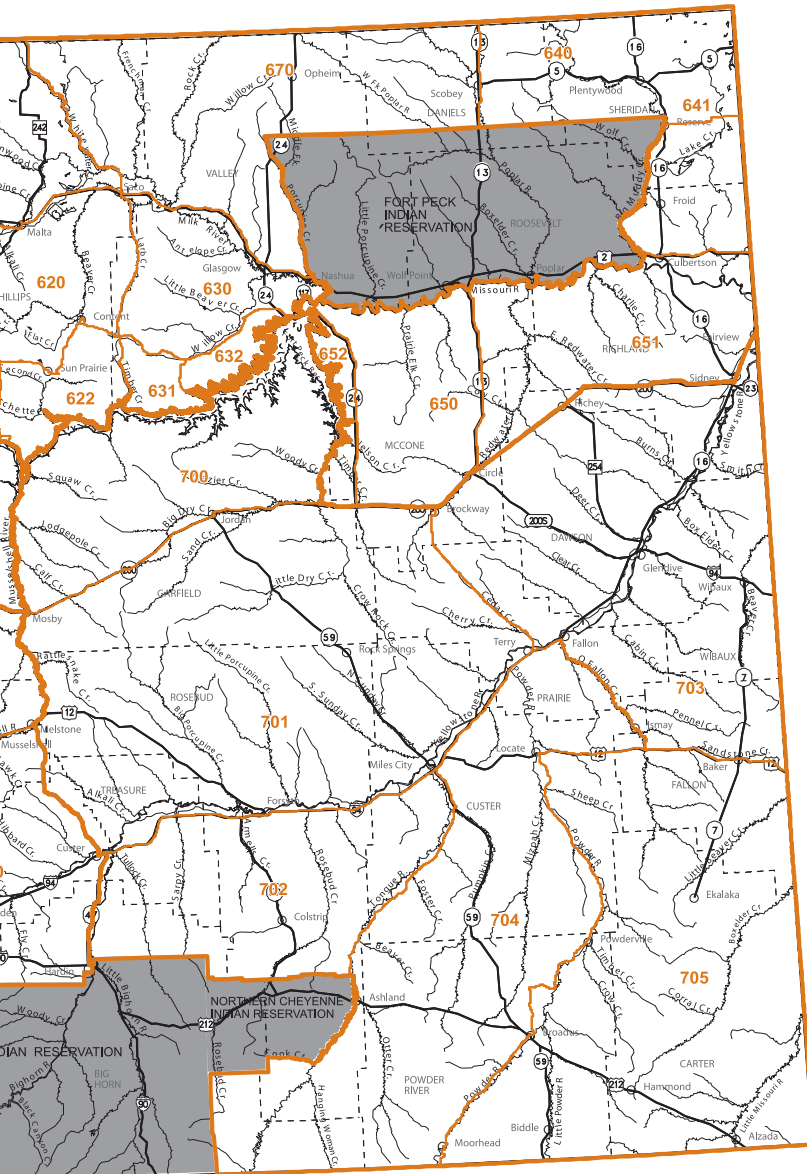
- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 101 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

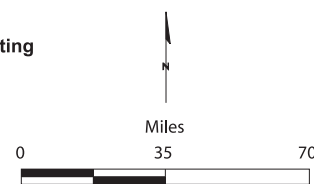
101-00 17 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 6.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.



Areas not open to Mountain Lion hunting with a State of Montana License.

Closed to Hunting for Big Game



Map intended only as a guide.

----- HD 102 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

102-00 17 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 5.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 103 -----

NOTE: Libby Big game Archery Only Hunting Area restricted to ArchEquip Only. See "Area Closed or Limited to Hunting Methods for Big Game."

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

103-00 12 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 5.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 104 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

104-00 12 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 5.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 109 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

109-00 12 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 5.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 110 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

110-00 10 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 4.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 120 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

120-00 8 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 4.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 121 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

121-00 37 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 8.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 122 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

122-00 14 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 6.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 123 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

123-00 6 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 2.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 124 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

124-00 5 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 1.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 130 -----

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

130-00 14 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 6.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 132 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 10. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 140 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 6. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 141 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 6. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 150 & 151 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 7. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Sept 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Sept 15 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 170 (Flathead Valley) -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Unlimited. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- Missoula Special Mgmt Area -----

NOTE: Portions of HDs 201, 203, 204, 260, 283 and 292. MSMA maps and legal descriptions are available at Missoula FWP office (406-542-5500).

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Female quota = 12 and Male quota = 13. Resident only.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

201-00 2 licenses. Any Legal mountain lion. NonResident only.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 200 & 201 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

200-00 20 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 10. Male quota = 10.

Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 202 & 203 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

202-00 30 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 15. Male quota = 15.

Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 204, 260 & 261 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

204-00 10 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 2. Male quota = 5.

Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 210 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

210-00 7 licenses. Harvest Quota: 7. Legal male mountain lion. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 211 & 216 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

211-00 7 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 2. Male quota = 5.

Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 212 & 215 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

212-00 6 licenses. Harvest Quota: 6. Legal male mountain lion. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 213 & 214 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

213-00 3 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 1. Male quota = 2. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 240 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

240-00 10 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 3. Male quota = 5. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 250 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

250-00 14 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 7. Male quota = 7. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 270 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

270-00 14 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 7. Male quota = 7. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 280, 281, 284, 293 & portion of 298 east of State Route 141 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

280-00 14 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 7. Male quota = 7. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 282 -----

NOTE: Closed to all lion hunting (harvest and chase).

----- HD 283 & 285 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

283-00 16 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 8. Male quota = 8. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 290, 291, 292 & portion of 298 west of State Route 141 -----

NOTE: Excluding Missoula Special Management Area.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: Check quota status before hunting. Season will not open if Special Lion License-holders fill the quota by Feb 1.

- Feb 01 - Apr 14 – Late Winter Season.

Special Lion License. Drawing only. Apply by Aug 31.

290-00 14 licenses. Harvest Quota: Female quota = 7. Male quota = 7. Beginning Feb 1, Special Lion Licenses and General Lion Licenses are valid for the same area and time period until the quota is filled.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 300, 302, 328 & 329 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 4. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 2.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 301 -----

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 6. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 2.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 309 -----

NOTE: Mountain lion hunting is restricted to ArchEquip, shotgun, traditional handgun, muzzleloader or crossbow only, EXCEPT on some private lands which are excluded from the weapons restrictions. -Map available at FWP-R3 HQ 406-994-4042, in Bozeman.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 5. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- HD 310, 311, 360, 361 & 362 -----

NOTE: Excluding Spanish Peaks portion of HD 311. See legal description.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 7. Any Legal mountain lion. Female subquota = 2.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

----- Spanish Peaks Portion of HD 311 -----

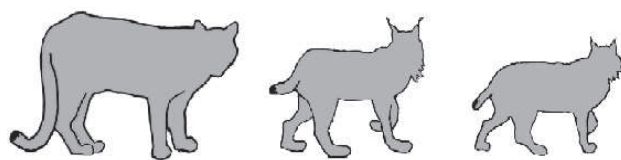
NOTE: Only valid in Spanish Peaks portion of HD 311. See legal description.

General Lion License.

Harvest Quota: 7. Any Legal mountain lion.

- Sept 01 - Oct 14 – Archery Only Season.
- Oct 20 - Nov 25 – Fall Season Without Dogs.
- Dec 01 - Apr 14 – Winter Season.

Cat Identification



Mountain Lion

Lynx

Bobcat



32" - 44"



24" - 33"



3 3/4" - 4 3/4"

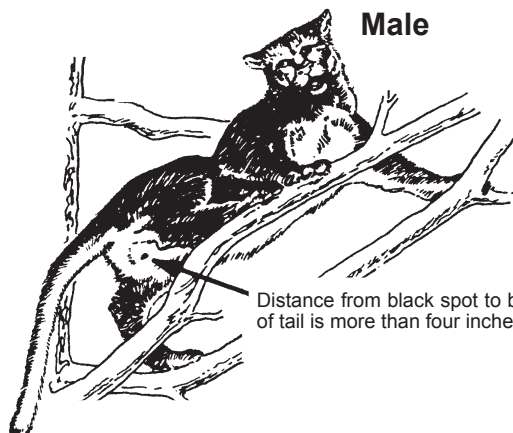


2 1/4"

- Note differences in tail length of mountain lion and black markings on tip of lynx and bobcat tails.
- Lynx ear tufts are longer than bobcat ear tufts.
- Mountain lion and lynx foot sizes are similar; bobcat is much smaller.
- Tracks are shown with shaded area representing impression of hair in the snow.
- Note track size and stride length differences between species.

Sex Determination of Mountain Lion

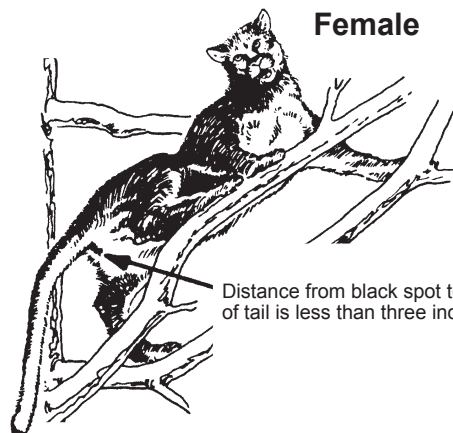
Male adult and subadult lions have a conspicuous black spot, about one inch diameter, surrounding the opening to the penis sheath behind the hind legs and about four to five inches below the base of the tail.



Male

Distance from black spot to base of tail is more than four inches.

Female adult and subadult lions may have black fur surrounding the vulva and located about three inches or less from the base of the tail.



Female

Distance from black spot to base of tail is less than three inches.

Pad Width & Stride Length - potential indicators of sex



< 2"

Adult Female

< 40"



> 40"

Adult Male



4 1/4"

2012 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours



These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of mountain lion begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. (Do not utilize from other sources).

ZONE 1

INCLUDES: Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	7:36	7:15	8:19	6:19	8:01	4:49	8:21	4:59	8:00	5:40	7:15	6:22	7:15	8:06
02	7:37	7:13	8:21	6:18	8:02	4:49	8:21	5:00	7:59	5:41	7:13	6:24	7:13	8:07
03	7:38	7:11	8:22	6:16	8:03	4:48	8:21	5:01	7:57	5:43	7:11	6:25	7:11	8:08
04	7:40	7:09	8:24	6:15	8:05	4:48	8:21	5:02	7:56	5:44	7:09	6:26	7:09	8:10
05	7:41	7:07	8:25	6:13	8:06	4:48	8:21	5:03	7:55	5:46	7:08	6:28	7:07	8:11
06	7:42	7:05	8:27	6:12	8:07	4:48	8:21	5:04	7:53	5:47	7:06	6:29	7:05	8:13
07	7:44	7:03	8:28	6:11	8:08	4:48	8:20	5:05	7:52	5:49	7:04	6:31	7:03	8:14
08	7:45	7:01	8:30	6:09	8:09	4:47	8:20	5:06	7:51	5:51	7:02	6:32	7:01	8:15
09	7:46	6:59	8:31	6:08	8:10	4:47	8:20	5:07	7:49	5:52	7:00	6:34	6:59	8:17
10	7:48	6:57	8:33	6:07	8:11	4:47	8:19	5:08	7:48	5:54	7:58	6:35	6:57	8:18
11	7:49	6:55	8:34	6:06	8:12	4:47	8:19	5:10	7:46	5:55	7:56	6:37	6:55	8:19
12	7:51	6:53	8:35	6:05	8:13	4:47	8:18	5:11	7:44	5:57	7:54	6:38	6:53	8:21
13	7:52	6:52	8:37	6:03	8:13	4:48	8:18	5:12	7:43	5:58	7:52	6:39	6:52	8:22
14	7:53	6:50	8:38	6:02	8:14	4:48	8:17	5:14	7:41	6:00	7:50	6:41	6:50	8:24
15	7:55	6:48	8:40	6:01	8:15	4:48	8:17	5:15	7:40	6:01	7:48	6:42	6:48	8:25
16	7:56	6:46	8:41	6:00	8:16	4:48	8:16	5:16	7:38	6:03	7:46	6:44	6:46	8:26
17	7:58	6:44	8:43	5:59	8:16	4:49	8:15	5:18	7:36	6:04	7:44	6:45	6:44	8:28
18	7:59	6:42	8:44	5:58	8:17	4:49	8:14	5:19	7:35	6:06	7:42	6:46	6:42	8:29
19	8:00	6:41	8:46	5:57	8:18	4:49	8:14	5:20	7:33	6:07	7:40	6:48	6:41	8:30
20	8:02	6:39	8:47	5:56	8:18	4:50	8:13	5:22	7:31	6:09	7:38	6:49	6:39	8:32
21	8:03	6:37	8:48	5:55	8:19	4:50	8:12	5:23	7:30	6:10	7:36	6:51	6:37	8:33
22	8:05	6:35	8:50	5:54	8:19	4:51	8:11	5:25	7:28	6:12	7:34	6:52	6:35	8:34
23	8:06	6:34	8:51	5:53	8:20	4:51	8:10	5:26	7:26	6:13	7:32	6:53	6:34	8:36
24	8:08	6:32	8:53	5:52	8:20	4:52	8:09	5:28	7:24	6:15	7:30	6:55	6:32	8:37
25	8:09	6:30	8:54	5:51	8:20	4:53	8:08	5:29	7:22	6:16	7:28	6:56	6:30	8:39
26	8:10	6:29	8:55	5:50	8:21	4:53	8:07	5:31	7:21	6:18	7:26	6:57	6:28	8:40
27	8:12	6:27	8:56	5:49	8:21	4:54	8:06	5:32	7:19	6:19	7:24	6:59	6:27	8:41
28	8:13	6:25	8:58	5:48	8:21	4:55	8:05	5:34	7:17	6:21	7:22	7:00	6:25	8:43
29	8:15	6:24	8:59	5:47	8:21	4:56	8:04	5:35			7:21	7:02	6:23	8:44
30	8:16	6:22	9:00	5:46	8:21	4:57	8:03	5:37			7:19	7:00	6:22	8:45
31	8:18	6:21			8:21	4:58	8:01	5:38			7:17	7:00		

ZONE 2

INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	7:28	7:07	8:11	6:12	7:52	4:42	8:12	4:52	7:52	5:33	7:07	6:14	7:07	7:58
02	7:29	7:05	8:12	6:11	7:53	4:42	8:12	4:53	7:50	5:34	7:05	6:16	7:05	7:59
03	7:30	7:03	8:14	6:09	7:55	4:42	8:12	4:54	7:49	5:36	7:03	6:17	7:03	8:00
04	7:31	7:01	8:15	6:08	7:56	4:41	8:12	4:55	7:48	5:37	7:01	6:19	7:01	8:02
05	7:33	6:59	8:17	6:06	7:57	4:41	8:12	4:56	7:46	5:39	7:00	6:20	6:59	8:03
06	7:34	6:57	8:18	6:05	7:58	4:41	8:12	4:57	7:45	5:40	6:58	6:22	6:57	8:04
07	7:36	6:55	8:20	6:04	7:59	4:41	8:11	4:58	7:43	5:42	6:56	6:23	6:55	8:06
08	7:37	6:53	8:21	6:03	8:00	4:41	8:11	4:59	7:42	5:43	6:54	6:25	6:54	8:07
09	7:38	6:51	8:22	6:02	8:01	4:41	8:11	5:00	7:41	5:45	6:52	6:26	6:52	8:08
10	7:40	6:50	8:24	6:01	8:02	4:41	8:10	5:02	7:39	5:46	7:50	6:27	6:50	8:10
11	7:41	6:48	8:25	6:00	8:03	4:41	8:10	5:03	7:38	5:48	7:48	6:29	6:48	8:11
12	7:42	6:46	8:27	5:59	8:04	4:41	8:10	5:04	7:36	5:49	7:46	6:30	6:46	8:12
13	7:44	6:44	8:28	5:58	8:04	4:41	8:09	5:05	7:34	5:51	7:44	6:32	6:44	8:14
14	7:45	6:42	8:30	5:57	8:05	4:41	8:08	5:07	7:33	5:52	7:42	6:33	6:42	8:15
15	7:47	6:40	8:31	5:56	8:06	4:41	8:08	5:08	7:31	5:54	7:40	6:34	6:40	8:17
16	7:48	6:38	8:33	5:55	8:07	4:41	8:07	5:09	7:30	5:55	7:38	6:36	6:39	8:18
17	7:49	6:37	8:34	5:54	8:07	4:42	8:06	5:11	7:28	5:57	7:36	6:37	6:37	8:19
18	7:51	6:35	8:35	5:53	8:08	4:42	8:06	5:12	7:26	5:58	7:34	6:38	6:35	8:21
19	7:52	6:33	8:37	5:52	8:09	4:43	8:05	5:13	7:25	6:00	7:32	6:40	6:33	8:22
20	7:54	6:31	8:38	5:51	8:10	4:43	8:04	5:15	7:23	6:01	7:31	6:41	6:31	8:23
21	7:55	6:30	8:40	5:50	8:10	4:44	8:03	5:16	7:21	6:03	7:29	6:43	6:30	8:25
22	7:56	6:28	8:41	5:49	8:10	4:44	8:02	5:18	7:19	6:04	7:27	6:44	6:28	8:26
23	7:58	6:26	8:42	5:48	8:11	4:45	8:01	5:19	7:18	6:06	7:25	6:45	6:26	8:27
24	7:59	6:25	8:44	5:47	8:11	4:45	8:00	5:21	7:16	6:07	7:23	6:47	6:25	8:29
25	8:01	6:23	8:45	5:46	8:11	4:46	7:59	5:22	7:14	6:09	7:21	6:48	6:23	8:30
26	8:02	6:21	8:46	5:45	8:12	4:47	7:58	5:24	7:12	6:10	7:19	6:49	6:21	8:31
27	8:04	6:20	8:47	5:44	8:12	4:47	7:57	5:25	7:11	6:12	7:17	6:51	6:20	8:33
28	8:05	6:18	8:49	5:43	8:12	4:48	7:56	5:27	7:09	6:13	7:15	6:52	6:18	8:34
29	8:06	6:17	8:50	5:42	8:12	4:49	7:55	5:28			7:13	6:54	6:16	8:35
30	8:08	6:15	8:51	5:41	8:12	4:50	7:54	5:30			7:11	6:55	6:15	8:37
31	8:09	6:13			8:12	4:51	7:53	5:31			7:09	6:56		

ZONE 3

INCLUDES: Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

Day	Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	7:17	6:56	8:01	6:01	7:44	4:30	8:04	4:39	7:42	5:21	6:57	6:04	6:56	7:48
02	7:19	6:54	8:03	5:59	7:45	4:30	8:04	4:40	7:41	5:22	6:55	6:05	6:54	7:49
03	7:20	6:52	8:04	5:58	7:46	4:29	8:04	4:41	7:40	5:24	6:53	6:07	6:52	7:50
04	7:21	6:50	7:06	4:56	7:47	4:29	8:04	4:43	7:38	5:26	6:51	6:08	6:50	7:52
05	7:23	6:48	7:07	4:55	7:48	4:29	8:03	4:44	7:37	5:27	6:50	6:09	6:48	7:53
06	7:24	6:46	7:09	4:53	7:49	4:29	8:03	4:45	7:36	5:29	6:48	6:11	6:46	7:54
07	7:25	6:44	7:10	4:52	7:50	4:28	8:03	4:46	7:34	5:30	6:46	6:12	6:44	7:56
08	7:27	6:43	7:12	4:51	7:51	4:28	8:03	4:47	7:33	5:32	6:44	6:14	6:43	7:57
09	7:28	6:41	7:13	4:49	7:52	4:28	8:02	4:48	7:31	5:33	6:42	6:15	6:41	7:59
10	7:30	6:39	7:15	4:48	7:53	4:28	8:02	4:50	7:30	5:35	6:40	6:17	6:39	8:00
11	7:31	6:37	7:16	4:47	7:54	4:28	8:01	4:51	7:28	5:36	6:38	6:18	6:37	8:01
12	7:32	6:35	7:18	4:46	7:55	4:28	8:01	4:52	7:27	5:38	6:36	6:20	6:35	8:03
13	7:34	6:33	7:19	4:45	7:56	4:29	8:00	4:53	7:25	5:40	6:34	6:22	6:33	8:04
14	7:35	6:31	7:21	4:43	7:57	4:29	8:00	4:55	7:23	5:41	6:32	6:24	6:31	8:06
15	7:37	6:29	7:22	4:42	7:57	4:29	7:59	4:56	7:22	5:43	6:30	6:26	6:29	8:07
16	7:38	6:27	7:24	4:41	7:58	4:29	7:58	4:57	7:20	5:44	6:28	6:25	6:27	8:08
17	7:40	6:26	7:25	4:40	7:59	4:29	7:58	4:59	7:18	5:46	6:26	6:27	6:26	8:10
18	7:41	6:24	7:26	4:39	7:59	4:30	7:57	5:00	7:17	5:47	6:24	6:28	6:24	8:11
19	7:42	6:22	7:28	4:38	8:00	4:30	7:56	5:02	7:15	5:49	6:22	6:29	6:22	8:12
20	7:44	6:20	7:29	4:37	8:01	4:31	7:55	5:03	7:13	5:50	6:20	6:31	6:20	8:14
21	7:45	6:19	7:31	4:37	8:01	4:31	7:54	5:04	7:12	5:52	6:18	6:32	6:18	8:15
22	7:47	6:17	7:32	4:36	8:02	4:32	7:53	5:06	7:10	5:53	6:16	6:34	6:17	8:17
23	7:48	6:15	7:33	4:35	8:02	4:32	7:53	5:07	7:08	5:55	6:14	6:35	6:15	8:18
24	7:50	6:13	7:35	4:34	8:02	4:33	7:52	5:09	7:06	5:56	6:12	6:36	6:13	8:19
25	7:51	6:12	7:36	4:33	8:03	4:34	7:51	5:10	7:04	5:58	6:10	6:38	6:11	8:21
26	7:53	6:10	7:37	4:33	8:03	4:34	7:49	5:12	7:03	5:59	6:08	6:39	6:10	8:22
27	7:54	6:08	7:39	4:32	8:03	4:35	7:48	5:13	7:01	6:01	6:06	6:41	6:08	8:23
28	7:56	6:07	7:40	4:32	8:03	4:36	7:47	5:15	6:59	6:02	6:04	6:42	6:06	8:25
29	7:57	6:05	7:41	4:31	8:04	4:37	7:46	5:16			7:02	6:43	6:05	8:26
30	7:58	6:04	7:42	4:31	8:04	4:38	7:45	5:18			7:00	6:45	6:03	8:27
31	8:00	6:02			8:04	4:39	7:44	5:19			6:58	6:46		

Contacts

Mountain Lion 24-hour Harvest Reporting Number.....	1-877-FWP-WILD (397-9453)
Mountain Lion Quota Status	
24 hours/day - 7 days/week	1-800-385-7826
OR	fwp.mt.gov
Bobcat, Otter, Fisher, Swift Fox and Wolverine Quota Status	
24 hours/day - 7 days/week.....	1-800-711-8727

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters

1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701,
Helena, MT 59620-0701.....406-444-2535

Hunter Education.....	406-444-9948
Wildlife Division.....	406-444-2612
Enforcement Division.....	406-444-2452
Parks Division (Montana State Parks).....	406-444-3750
Special drawings.....	406-444-2950
Resident and nonresident licensing.....	406-444-2535
Telephone Device for the Deaf.....	406-444-1200

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters

Region 1

490 N Meridian Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-5501



Region 2

3201 Spurgin Rd
Missoula, MT 59804
406-542-5500

Lewistown Area Res Office (LARO)

215 W Aztec Dr
PO Box 938
Lewistown, MT 59457
406-538-4658

Region 3

1400 South 19th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496
406-994-4042

Region 5

2300 Lake Elmo Dr
Billings, MT 59105
406-247-2940

Helena Area Res Office (HARO)

930 Custer Ave W
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620
406-495-3260

Region 6

54078 US Hwy 2 W
Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-3700

Butte Area Res Office (BARO)

1820 Meadowlark Ln
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-1953

Havre Area Res Office (HvARO)

2165 Hwy 2 East
Havre, MT 59501
406-265-6177

Region 4

4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
406-454-5840

Region 7

352 I-94 Business Loop
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301
406-234-0900

Contacts Outside Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana State Agencies

Agriculture
406-444-3144
Guides & Outfitters
406-841-2373
Livestock
406-444-2977
State Lands
406-444-2074
Tourism
406-841-2870

Land Maps

Bureau of Land Management
406-896-5000
Topographical (USGS)
888-275-8747

Tribal Lands

Blackfeet Reservation
406-338-7276
Crow Reservation
406-638-2601
Flathead Reservation
406-675-2700
Fort Belknap
406-353-2205
Fort Peck Reservation
406-768-5305
Northern Cheyenne Reservation
406-477-8844
Rocky Boy Reservation
406-395-4207

Federal Agencies

US Department of Interior
202-208-3100
US Fish & Wildlife Service
406-449-5225
US Forest Service
406-449-5201
Bureau of Land Management
406-896-5000
National Weather Service
406-329-4840 (Missoula)

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